

For Immediate Release

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Contact: Vermont Department of Labor

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Vermont Department of Labor Announces Details of Flood Recovery Assistance Grant

The Vermont Department of Labor today provided additional information on how to access the temporary jobs and recovery project assistance under a recent flood recovery grant from the US Department of Labor. The grant was secured with the assistance of Vermontøs congressional delegation and Governor Peter Shumlin.

Funds are available in nine Vermont counties to provide temporary employment for up to six months on projects to help public and non-profit structures and facilities clean-up, demolish, repair, renovate or reconstruct their facilities destroyed or damaged by the flooding. The qualified counties are Addison, Chittenden, Essex, Franklin, Grand Isle, Lamoille, Orleans and Washington.

(Note: The Department does not have permission at this time to include Caledonia county, but will provide an update if such permission is granted.)

While project locations must be specific to the listed counties, persons interested in the temporary employment do not need to be a resident of one of these counties in order to qualify for the employment opportunity.

Vermonters who may be eligible for these temporary jobs are:

- (1) Workers who have been temporarily or permanently dislocated as a result of the disaster;
- (2) Eligible dislocated workers who are unemployed and not receiving unemployment compensation or other types of income support;
- (3) Individuals who have been unemployed for 15 weeks or longer.

Priority for the temporary jobs will first be given to those workers who have experienced temporary or permanent job loss as a result of the flooding.

Public and Non-Profit entities in the counties listed, that suffered flood damage, are eligible to apply to have the grant-funded, temporary workers provide assistance with the clean up, demolition, repair, renovation or reconstruction activities. The highest priority is for public facilities which have been most severely damaged, consistent with the strategic plans of the community. The second priority is for private non-profit facilities which have the highest impact on providing needed temporary services and/or restoring public services. Generally, worksites will be limited to public and private non-profit facilities and property. Work on private property may be eligible to the extent that it meets certain strict requirements.

According to the Vermont Department of Labor this grant will help displaced or long-term unemployed Vermonters reconnect to the workforce, and help restore the public infrastructure so that regular business and services can be restored more expeditiously.

To find out more about the temporary job opportunities, or to find out if your public or non-profit organization can qualify for this help, should contact the Vermont Department of Labor at 802-828-4325 OR 802-828-4342. Information on this program, as well as the special Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) can be found on the Vermont Department of Labor website at www.labor.vermont.gov.



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